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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

11 JUNE 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego - Border Patrol Seizes \$8.6M Marijuana Load

(U) Authorities say a 7-ton load of marijuana, worth about \$8.6 million, was found inside the trailer of a truck trying to cross into the US from Mexico. The load was discovered during an X-ray inspection at the Otay Mesa border crossing. The truck's driver, a 45-year-old Mexican citizen, was carrying a manifest that claimed he was hauling metal racks. Officials said officers saw "an anomaly" on the X-ray and a police dog detected drugs. When officers opened the trailer, they found 722 packages of marijuana hidden inside boxes. In total, they say the truck had nearly 15,000 pounds of marijuana. Authorities say the driver's visa was canceled and he was turned over to federal investigators.

SOURCE: 9 June 2018, Associated Press

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – Two Arrested for Smuggling Mexican Nationals

(U) Tucson – Border agents say two residents are accused of trying to smuggle several migrants from Mexico into Arizona. The US Border Patrol says agents, along with Cochise County Sheriff's deputies, apprehended the two residents and six Mexican citizens. Agents say they noticed several men get into an SUV near the border. The Tucson residents, a 39-year-old woman and 28-year-old man, were arrested for human smuggling. The other six were processed for immigration violations.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, KGUN 9

(U) Texas – Border Patrol Agents Find Six Illegal Immigrants Trapped Inside Cabinets

(U) Laredo – Six illegal immigrants from Mexico were found tightly packed inside cabinets that were being transported over the border. Border Patrol agents, assigned to the checkpoint, discovered them after a service canine alerted the agents to the possible presence of concealed humans and/or narcotics in the truck. The driver of the truck, a US citizen, was arrested at the checkpoint and then turned over to DHS Investigations for prosecution.

SOURCE: 9 June 2018, FOX News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida - Coast Guard Offloads Seven Tons of Cocaine Seized from Smuggling Vessels

(U) Miami – The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Campbell off-loaded nearly 14,000 pounds of cocaine, worth about \$206 million. The drugs were seized in international waters from seven cases of suspected smuggling vessels off the coasts of Mexico, Central and South America. The Campbell seized six cases, about 5,435 kilograms, and the cutter Active seized about 827 kilograms. A release said the Coast Guard increased presence in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Basin as part of its Western Hemisphere Strategy.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, WTSP

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(U) Missouri – Woman Sentenced for Supporting ISIS over Twitter

(U) Springfield – A 40-year-old Missouri woman who sent threatening messages to several people in support of ISIS will spend years in federal prison. Federal prosecutors say Safya Roe Yassin, of Buffalo, was sentenced to nine years in federal prison without parole. Federal prosecutor say Yassin used several Twitter accounts to transmit information she believed was from ISIS, including soliciting violence against two FBI employees and two former members of the military and their families. Prosecutors say those four victims were targeted only because of their service.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, Associated Press

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Kosovo – Two Arrested and Suspected of Plotting Attacks on NATO

(U) Pristina – Authorities have arrested two people, including a Belgian national, suspected of planning attacks on NATO troops and the public in Kosovo, Belgium, and France. The prosecutor's office said in a statement that last week, a man and a woman, spoke by telephone of preparing terrorist attacks and commit suicide attacks with explosives with a car against KFOR (NATO-led Kosovo Force) soldiers in Kosovo and to attack places frequented by citizens. The man, identified only as a 26-year-old Belgian national, was living with the 25-year-old woman. According to the prosecution the man was also preparing suicide attacks in public places in Belgium and France.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, Reuters

(U) Somalia - Al Shabaab Claims Attack in Which US Soldier Died

(U) Mogadishu – The Islamist group al Shabaab has claimed responsibility for an attack in which a US commando was killed and four others were wounded when they came under fire in the country. The US special operations forces were fighting alongside about 800 troops from the Somali National Security Forces and Kenyan Defense Forces when they were attacked by mortars and small arms fire. The troops had been on a mission to clear al Shabaab from contested areas as well as villages the militants controlled. Al Shabaab is fighting to overthrow Somalia's central government and establish its own rule. SOURCE: 9 June 2018, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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